

ARISTOCRAT OF BIRD FAMILY

Handsome Jay Is Acknowledged by Its
Fellows as Superior in the
Feathered World.

All members of the jay family are famed for their wit. The jay—often a plunderer—is the intellectual of the bird world, and is aristocratic, autocratic and domineering—the acknowledged superior of other birds. He is handsome, a wearer of bright clothes, and acts and looks the part that should go with royal purple. The European jay runs to the reddish; the American or Eastern jay is light blue; a fellow down by the Rio Grande wears green, while the cock of the family—the wit of wings—is the stellar or long-crested jay, clad in deep blue with jet black crest and head and touches of turquoise, purple and black on wings and tail. The handsome long-crested or stellar jay inhabits all the mountain ranges of western North America and is one of the lords of the earth. He is a character second to none in the entire bird world. He is brilliant, wise, versatile and aggressive. This jay is eternally, efficiently vigilant. If there come new food to his locality he takes possession before other birds discover it; if new danger, he will be the first to detect it; if opportunity for fun, he first uses it; but if there is nothing doing he is who gets busy and has something doing soon.

ANOTHER USE FOR CAMERA

To Be Employed by New York Court
to Take Certified Copies of Im-
portant Documents.

Surrogates John P. Cohalan and James A. Foley announced that on and after June 30 all certified copies of wills and other important documents needed in the surrogate's court would be made by photography instead of the existing method of reproduction by typewriting, the New York Evening Sun states.

It has taken the photographers about as long to get some of the authorities in that city to recognize the labor-saving qualities of photography over typewriting as it did for the typewriter manufacturers to convince them of the advantages of typewriting over the old style quill, officials say.

A photographic room has been fitted up in the hall of records and, although all of the electric light connections have not been made, the surrogates have taken the precaution to inform attorneys of the contemplated improvement.

DIAMOND IMPORTS SMALL.

The European market has little to offer in the way of good assortments of rough and finished diamonds, according to a leading importer. The year and a half during the war, when the diamond mines were producing almost nothing, has been followed by restrictions on production by the South African government, it is reported, with a consequent decrease in the output. Some shipments of rough diamonds are reported on the water destined for New York now, but the quality is comparatively poor it is said. With sterling exchange advancing as it has for the past two months, diamond importers are now paying more for the rough goods than ever before and expect higher prices to prevail when these stones are cut.

MOUNTAIN THREATENS TOWN.

Part of the mining town of Mandy, Rhondda Valley, Wales, is threatened with destruction by the movements of Mandy mountain. Before the fine weather set in there were distinct signs of landslide, but the cessation of rain gave the land time to set. Recently, however, there was a repetition of the movement and 40 houses in Edward Street are feeling the effects of the increasing pressure. Ceilings are falling and doors are twisted. At night ominous rumblings are heard. Army huts are being erected in the park with the object of affording temporary accommodations if the houses have to be vacated.—London Times.

CREDIT WITHHELD.

"My friend," said the industrious man, "when I was your age I thought nothing of working 14 hours a day."
"Yes," replied the complacent youth, "in those days there were no moving pictures and no golf. What else was there for you to do with your time?"

FOILED INVADER (F NEST)

Sparrows Shrewd in Disarming Pul-
let Who Had Possessed Herself
of Their Abode.

One morning a woman, of whom a Companion contributor writes, noticed a commotion among the sparrows that nested under the eaves of her back porch. They were twittering indignantly and flying about in great excitement. When she investigated she saw her Leghorn pullet, which must have looked like a giantess to the sparrows, sitting complacently on the small nest. Getting quietly down, the woman waited, and in a few minutes the pullet flew down, cackling proudly. She had laid an egg in the little sparrow nest.

Curious to see what would happen, the woman left the egg there, but the next morning it lay smashed on the porch floor, and not a sign of the nest under the eaves remained. Unobserved, the sparrows had spirited away each little straw, tuft of soft bark, string and strand of horsehair, and the egg had rolled over the edge. The woman wondered whether the sparrows had shooed it over.

The next day the pullet again flew up under the eaves, but, finding only bare boards, she returned to the henhouse, cackling resentfully. In a few days the sparrows returned and, apparently reassured, rebuilt their nest in the same place.—Youth's Companion.

A PAST STATE



"I believe in the reincarnation doctrine. I am sure I lived in the classic times."

"Possibly you were one of the sacred geese that saved Rome by awakening everybody with their cackle."

INCENDIARY BULLETS HOLLOW.

The incendiary bullets used during the war, mostly fired from machine guns carried by airplanes, were in effect miniature high explosive shells. Those supplied to our armies (millions of them were made at the Frankford arsenal) were of brass, hollowed out to hold a composition of which the principal ingredient was barium nitrate. To set this off, each bullet had a priming charge of magnesium and red lead.

An ordinary rifle bullet, of course, is solid. The incendiary bullet is of wholly different construction, though of the same caliber, being meant to carry flame. Its discharge sets fire to the explosive stuff contained in it.

CARD-DEALER.

Among the new devices is one invented by a Frenchman for the rapid dealing of playing cards. It consists of a metal tray large enough to contain a full pack of cards, and a wheel with a rubber rim kept in contact with the topmost card by means of a spring. Connected to the wheel is a small chain with a wire loop for the finger. Each time the wire is pulled, one card is dealt, the spring bringing the wheel into contact with the next card.

PRESIDENTIAL SURNAMES.

Considering the fact that the United States has kept practically an open door for a century and more to all comers, and that millions of Germans, Scandinavians, Italians and others have settled in the land, it is surprising that only two presidents have borne other than British surnames. These were both Dutch, Van Buren and Roosevelt.

MEDICAL FASHIONS.

Appendix operations we understand from an authority on the subject, have "gone out of fashion." "What," may we ask, "are the indications for fall and winter styles in surgery?"

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FOR SALE: 7 room house and
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803. 9-27ff

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ver Weinstein's store. Apply of
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the price is reasonable. Apply to
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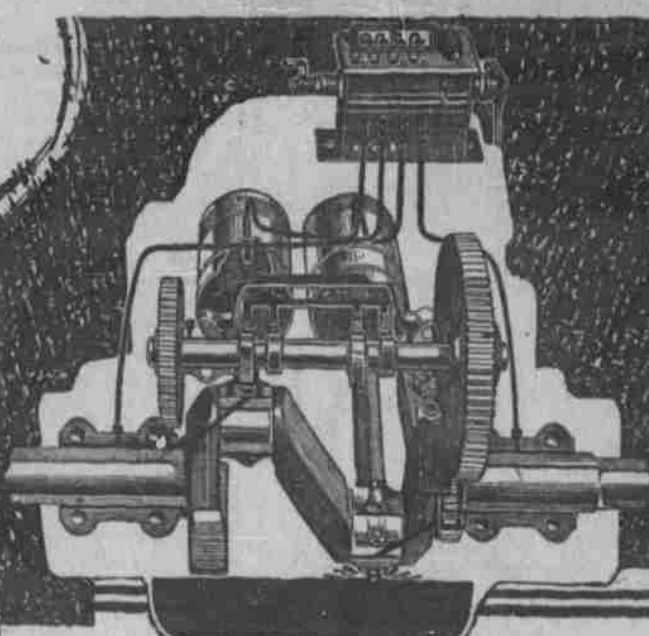
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studies in the University of Chi-
cago.

Send in your news items. You
must have visitors. Don't be
bashful.